

the Lisbon Council

think tank for the 21st century

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'Highways and railways were more important than digital infrastructure for our generation. We need to change our priorities because the digital sector will be the leading sector, a horizontal sector going to the real economy, the main driver for the whole industry.'

Günther Oettinger, European commissioner for digital economy and society

Communities in action: European Digital Forum at ICT 2015



Sherry Coutu



Carlos Torres Vila



Nikita Fahrenholz

Joined by a fascinating array of top entrepreneurs, venture capitalists and digital-era luminaries, the **European Digital Forum** co-hosted the **Startup Europe Forum** at ICT 2015, the European Commission's flagship information technology summit, in Lisbon, Portugal. Günther Oettinger, commissioner for digital economy and society, gave a fascinating appeal to entrepreneurs to renew their commitment to building a digital Europe in a session moderated by Politico's Zoya Sheftalovich. Brigitte Baumann, founder and CEO of Go Beyond Early Stage Investing; Nikita Fahrenholz, co-founder of Book a Tiger and Delivery Hero (one of Germany's four "unicorns"); Marie Ekeland, co-founder of Daphni venture capital and co-president of *France Digitale*; Carlos Torres Vila, president and chief operating officer of BBVA; and Matthias Ummenhofer, founder and managing director of Mojo Capital, led a star-studded panel. The European Digital Forum used the occasion to launch an array of publications and break-out sessions, including the **Startup Manifesto Policy Tracker**, a cutting-edge initiative for crowdsourcing startup-friendly reform in EU member states, and the **European Digital City Index**, an interactive study

that ranks 35 European cities on how well they support digital entrepreneurship. Later, Sherry Coutu, serial entrepreneur, business angel and author of the highly influential *Scale-Up Report*, and Geoff Mulgan, chief executive of Nesta, the UK's innovation foundation and co-manager of the European Digital Forum, chaired fascinating break-out sessions on key issues and deliverables in the digital economy. Visit the [Startup Manifesto Policy Tracker](#) and the [European Digital City Index](#). View [Highlights Video of Startup Europe Forum Opening Session](#). For more, visit www.europeandigitalforum.eu.



Geoff Mulgan, chief executive of Nesta, presents the European Digital City Index at ICT 2015

‘The Lisbon Council has done seminal work on [data-driven innovation], and we wanted to add to that. We could have launched this book anywhere, but we wanted to launch it here.’

Andrew Wyckoff, director for science, technology and innovation at the OECD, at the High-Level Roundtable on Data-Driven Innovation



Roberto Viola



Andrew Wyckoff

Data-driven innovation

Before a VIP audience, the Lisbon Council hosted the global launch of *Data-Driven Innovation: Big Data for Growth and Wellbeing*, a major new study from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Andrew Wyckoff, director for science, technology and innovation at OECD, delivered the main findings, presenting evidence that data-driven innovation can and does improve social wellbeing, enhance productivity and

raise economic competitiveness where it is most passionately pursued. Anne Carblanc, head of OECD digital economy policy division, and Christian Reimsbach-Kounatze, information economist and policy economic analyst, discussed the methodology and implications. Roberto Viola, director-general for communications networks, content and technology at the European Commission, highlighted the implications for Europe – and the opportunity for better use and deployment of data-driven innovation. The findings will feed directly into the OECD Digital Economy Ministerial in Cancún, Mexico in June 2016.

[Download the OECD Study.](#)

Leadership on climate and energy: A European perspective



Maroš Šefčovič



Jos Delbeke

Just before world leaders gathered for a breakthrough conference in Paris, the Lisbon Council convened the top European climate-change fighting team for the **High-Level Roundtable on Lessons of European Leadership in Climate Policy – and How They Are Relevant for an Ambitious COP21 Deal**. Maroš Šefčovič, vice-president of the European Commission for the energy union, presented the EU's position for

an ambitious new global agreement and his vision of a climate-friendly energy union. Jos Delbeke, director-general for climate action at the European Commission, and Peter Vis, former head of cabinet to Climate Action Commissioner Connie Hedegaard, launched *European Union Climate Policy Explained*, a new book that analyses the lessons of two decades of climate-change fighting experience. [Watch Video Highlights from the Presentation.](#)



New horizons for creative content and cultural goods



Will Page

The Lisbon Council brought together a multitude of top researchers and creative-economy experts for the **High-Level Roundtable on Creative Content and Cultural Goods in the Age of the Internet**. Joel Waldfogel, professor of applied economics, strategic management and entrepreneurship at the Carlson School of the University of Minnesota and one of the world's



Luis Aguiar



Joel Waldfogel

leading experts on the economics of the content industry, presented new research on the impact of digitalisation – and the opportunities inherent in embracing an ambitious European Commission digital single market (DSM) initiative. Will Page, director of economics at Spotify, described the evolution of the music industry from piracy to streaming, and discussed the parameters and challenges of new business models. Luis Aguiar, research fellow at the Joint Research Centre in the European Commission, presented new findings on the impact of the DSM strategy for economic wellbeing. Maximilian Strotmann, member of cabinet of European Commission Vice-President Andrus Ansip, served as discussant.

‘What I would like to see replicated on a global scale would be an energy-trading system. If we can use a market mechanism to establish a fair carbon price, we will be doing a big service to mankind. It would spur the innovation we need so much in this area.’

Maroš Šefčovič, vice-president of the European Commission, at the High-Level Roundtable just before crucial United Nations talks in Paris

Media in the age of the Internet



The Lisbon Council convened the **High-Level Working Lunch on Media in the Age of the Internet**, engaging top policymakers and experts in a thought-provoking, evidence-based discussion on the future of news. David Levy, director of the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism at Oxford University, presented the autumn update to *Digital News Report 2015*, the Reuters Institute’s highly-regarded survey, which describes the evolving



Reuters Institute’s David Levy discusses Digital News Report 2015

economic reality and online behaviour of news producers and consumers in 18 countries. The conclusion this year: readership is flourishing for global brands, but smaller niche players struggle to find revenue streams without large, online audiences. The lunch was hosted by **Innovation Economics**, the multi-disciplinary centre managed by the Lisbon Council and dedicated to providing scientific evidence of the profound impact of the Internet and the digital technologies. [Watch David Levy Discuss the Future of News](#) in a fascinating interview.

Thought leadership: New publications

The Lisbon Council doubled down on an ambitious research programme, delivering a wealth of new ideas and thought leadership.



Government of the Future: How Digital Technology Will Change the Way We Live, Work and Govern

This forward-looking policy brief – produced by the European Digital Forum – received high-level attention from day one. Launched at the eGovernment Conference 2015, a minister-level conference hosted by Luxembourg, acting President of the Council of the European Union, it looks at the state-of-play in e-government throughout the world and speculates on how Europe would look if today’s best practices were broadly disseminated and embraced at scale. Written



by Sergey Filippov, associate director of the Lisbon Council and former professor of innovation management at Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands, the paper imagines a world where citizens and governments collaborate to “co-create” public services through the use of radically enhanced approaches, such as “government as a platform”-based services and blockchain technology. [Download Government of the Future: How Digital Technology Will Change the Way We Live, Work and Govern.](#)

The 2015 Euro Plus Monitor: More Progress, New Risks

Fiscal repair and structural reforms were difficult, but the bitter medicine has worked. The systemic euro crisis is history. Most reform countries at the eurozone periphery are reaping the rewards of their efforts. For the reform countries, the risks ahead are mostly political rather than economic. This is the main finding of **The 2015 Euro Plus Monitor**, the authoritative survey published each year by the Lisbon Council and Berenberg. The study examines the fundamental health and measures the adjustment progress of 18 euro members as well as Poland, Sweden and the United Kingdom. It asks, who is reforming fastest? And who has the most need to adjust even more? This policy brief is the fifth edition of *The Euro Plus Monitor*. [Download The 2015 Euro Plus Monitor: More Progress, New Risks.](#)



'The seeds and tools of tomorrow's success are all around us, should we be bold enough to plant and seize them today.'

Paul Hofheinz, president of the Lisbon Council, in "The Digital Economy: A Platform for Centre-Left Revival," an essay contributed to a conference in the Hôtel Matignon, Paris

News and outreach



Paul Hofheinz

Lisbon Council principals kept up a busy agenda of outreach. President and Co-Founder Paul Hofheinz spoke at *Progressive Politics in a High-Opportunity, High-Risk Era*, a top-level seminar hosted by Prime Minister Manuel Valls in Paris. Read his contribution in [The Digital Economy: A Platform for Centre-Left Revival](#), commissioned by Policy Network, the London-based think tank, which co-hosted the Matignon-based conference. Mr Hofheinz also joined the S3 Mirror Group, a high-level advisory body providing strategic advice to the European Commission on its "smart specialisation" strategy, and continued his work on the *Task Force on Advancing the Transatlantic Digital Agenda*, which will publish its findings early in 2016. The Task Force is led by William Kennard, former U.S. ambassador to the European Union, and Carl Bildt, former Swedish prime minister and foreign minister, and managed by the Atlantic Council in Washington, DC. Mr Hofheinz also spoke at the opening plenary of the Think Tank Innovations Summit, hosted by the University of Pennsylvania's Think Tanks and Civil Society Programme, and presented [Uncovering the Hidden Value of Digital Trade: Towards a 21st Century Agenda of Transatlantic Prosperity](#) to a high-level audience at a Konrad Adenauer Stiftung roundtable.

Forthcoming



Carlos Moedas

The 2016 Innovation Summit

Carlos Moedas, European commissioner for research, science and innovation, keynotes this major summit on Europe's standing in the global science, research and innovation rankings. Commissioner Moedas will launch and present key findings of *The 2016 Innovation Union Competitiveness Report*, the European Commission's biennial survey. Special interventions will come from the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) and the OECD.

Growing Europe's digital economy

The European Digital Forum will launch **From 'Startup' to 'Scale Up': Growing Europe's Digital Economy**, a look at the challenges of helping European startups grow from seeds to mighty oaks. The paper will serve as direct input to the European Fund for Strategic Investments initiative, led by European Commission Vice-President Jyrki Katainen, and will be launched at the **High-Level Roundtable on Making the Juncker Investment Plan a Success**.

Transatlantic digital trade: next steps

Julie Brill, commissioner at the U.S. federal trade commission, joins an all-star panel on the transatlantic trade agenda and the recent uproar over the defunct "safe harbour agreement," which the European Court of Justice rejected last year. Together with European colleagues, Commissioner Brill will discuss and debate the need for a new agreement in this key policy area – and the steps the U.S. government is already taking on data privacy protection.



Julie Brill

Roundtables and seminars

The European Digital Forum convenes high-level summits, including **Making eGovernment a Success: How the European Commission's eGovernment Action Plan Can Improve Public Service, Raise Citizen-Satisfaction Rates and Deliver Results** and **Financial Services in the Age of the Internet: How Digital Technologies Will Transform Retail Banking - and What We Need to Do About It Today**. Special guests include Bernard Le Masson, global managing director for public services at Accenture Strategy, and David Rutter, CEO of R3, a global financial services technology firm.

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